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K364

ACTION EUR-00

INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	CIAE-00	INL-00	DODE-00	DS-00	E-00
	VCI-00	H-00	TEDE-00	INR-00	JUSE-00	L-00	M-00
	VCIE-00	DCP-00	NSAE-00	ISN-00	NSCE-00	OMB-00	NIMA-00
	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	P-00	SCT-00	ISNE-00	FMPC-00
	SP-00	SSO-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	IIP-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00
	PRM-00	DRL-00	G-00	SAS-00	SWCI-00	/000W	
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R 130142Z DEC 05

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0438

INFO EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE

FRG COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 004078

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/07/2020

TAGS: PGOV, GM

SUBJECT: THE GERMAN OPPOSITION: USING CIVIL RIGHTS TO STAY
RELEVANT

REF: BERLIN 4045

Classified By: DCM John Cloud. Reason: 1.4(b) an (d)

B1

Background

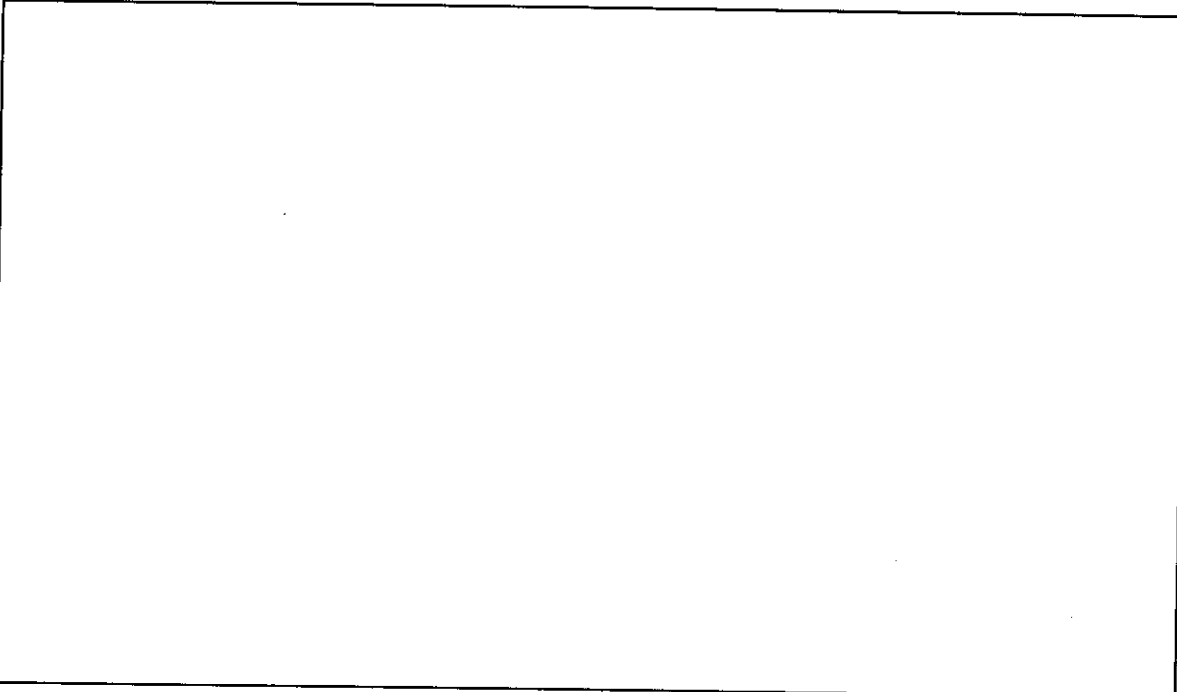
2. (U) The three smaller parties now in opposition made protection of civil rights a part of their 2005 federal election campaigns. All argued that neither the SPD nor CDU/CSU alone could be trusted to do so, especially given

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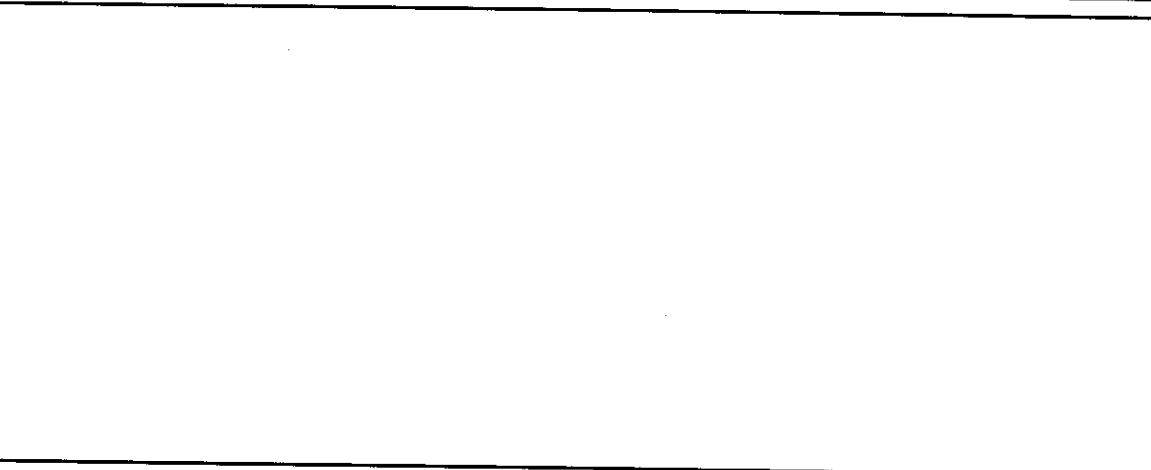
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those parties' emphasis on ensuring public security in the face of the terrorist threat. For the FDP, this represented something of a return to its roots and was partly a tactical response to critics within and outside the party who argued that it had become too focused on economic issues at the expense of social considerations. The Greens emphasized their role in the SPD-Green coalition as a restraint on those in the SPD who would have increased police and government power in order to combat domestic and foreign terrorism. Though the PDS, as successor to the East German communist party, has little credibility or resonance nationally on civil rights, they also adopted a strong line on the issue.

Common Agenda: Targets Within the Coalition Agreement



B1



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